(c) what concrete steps are taken to stop such activities completely?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO) : (a) to (c) The Union Government is not aware of any such report prepared by any leading US based human rights agency.

Misuse of Jails

2808. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether jails in some parts of the country are being misused with the help of officials where mentally retarded people are remanded by their relatives; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to stop such immoral practices involving police?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) 'Prisons' is a State subject as per the Constitution of India. As such, prison management is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, to improve the functioning of jails, the Central Government has been sending advisories to the State Governments from time to time. Complaints received by the Central Government about mal-functioning of jails are forwarded to the concerned State Governments for appropriate action. No complaint about the misuse of jails, as referred to in the question, appears to have been received here in the recent past.

Crime Rate in Delhi

2809. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi, the capital city of the country is the most unsafe city in the country so far as crime rate is concerned;

(b) if so, what measures are being taken to make it a crime free city; and

(c) what steps are being taken to check the growing rate of crime in States like Rajasthan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYA SAGAR RAO) : (a) and (b) Delhi Police has been making concerted efforts to prevent incidents of crime in the National Capital Territory as a result of which the crime rate in the National Capital Territory of Delhi has registered a decline of 9.52% in the year 1999 as compared to the preceding year.

(c) "Public Order" and "Police" being State subjects as per the Constitution of India, the registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is essentially the responsibility of the State Government concerned.

Protecting the Lives of Ordinary Citizens in Kashmir

2810. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government agree that the recent brutal massacre of 36 Sikhs in Kashmir has exposed that the Central and State Government have failed to protect the lives of ordinary citizens;

(b) whether any urgent measures have been taken to instil confidence among the people and provide them with adequate security; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO) : (a) to (c) Gruesome killing of 35 innocent citizens belonging to Sikh Community in Chattisinghpura village is a cowardly act perpetrated by the Pak supported terrorists. Security forces immediately launched operations to apprehend the terrorists involved in the massacre. A local resident of Chattisinghpura was arrested for participating in the carnage, and the security forces conducted raids on terrorist hideouts resulting in the killing of a number of terrorists, alleged to have participated in the incident. The security forces have already strengthened the security arrangements in the Sikh inhabited villages in the valley by *inter alia* providing security pickets. It has also been decided to set up village defence committees in such Sikh villages, where sufficient volunteers are available.

Prosecution of Chief Minister of Bihar

2811 . SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :